

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1511

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to promote and expand the export of agricultural commodities and products to foreign countries, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 1993

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. EMERSON, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, and Mr. BEREUTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to promote and expand the export of agricultural commodities and products to foreign countries, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That this Act may be cited as the “Agricultural Commod-
4 ity Export Expansion Act of 1993”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 The Congress finds that—

7 (1) agricultural commodity exports are essential
8 to the economic well-being of the United States

1 farmers and ranchers and related industries and to
2 the entire United States economy;

3 (2) the United States exports the commodity
4 production from one-third of its harvested acreage,
5 worth over \$40,000,000,000 in exports, and one mil-
6 lion Americans in the United States labor force de-
7 pend on agricultural commodity exports for their
8 jobs;

9 (3) the newly-formed Republics of the former
10 Soviet Union are struggling to put in place the insti-
11 tutions of democratic government and free market
12 economies and have great need to import agricul-
13 tural commodities and products to sustain that ef-
14 fort and achieve any measure of success;

15 (4) the former Soviet Union has been the larg-
16 est importer of United States grain and the new Re-
17 publics represent an important market in the future
18 for United States agricultural commodities and
19 products;

20 (5) the virtual cessation in recent months of
21 United States agricultural exports to the Republics
22 of the former Soviet Union has created an adverse
23 impact on the markets for the commodities held by
24 United States agricultural producers and is esti-

1 mated to result in a \$1,300,000,000 addition to the
2 United States deficit if not reversed;

3 (6) the abundant natural resources of the Re-
4 publics of the former Soviet Union and the capacity
5 to produce revenues through the development of
6 those resources provide assurance of their ability to
7 repay direct loans and loan guarantees extended by
8 the United States for the export of agricultural com-
9 modities and products within a reasonable time; and

10 (7) in addition to the authority to provide direct
11 loans and credit guarantees and in order to develop,
12 maintain, and expand foreign markets for United
13 States agricultural products under the Agricultural
14 Trade Act of 1978, the Secretary of Agriculture—

15 (A) has been provided the authority to in-
16 stitute a program in which agricultural com-
17 modities and products may be provided to im-
18 porting countries through barter in exchange
19 for foreign products from such importing coun-
20 tries;

21 (B) may initiate a variation of the Export
22 Enhancement Program, the Dairy Export In-
23 centive Program, and the Sunflower Oil Assist-
24 ance Program that allows sales to third-country
25 buyers for commodities destined to the Repub-

1 lics of the former Soviet Union wherein such
2 buyers are also third-country purchasers of
3 goods exported from the Republics of the
4 former Soviet Union and such buyers rely on
5 compensatory forms of trade such as barter,
6 countertrade, offset arrangements and escrow
7 accounts to be eligible for U.S. Department of
8 Agriculture trade program bonuses; and

9 (C) may initiate a program through which
10 payment for United States agricultural com-
11 modities can be made by recipient countries
12 based on the future sales of their abundant nat-
13 ural resources.

14 **SEC. 3. RESTRICTIONS FOR DIRECT LOANS.**

15 Section 201(f) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978
16 (7 U.S.C. 5621(f)) is amended to read as follows—

17 “(f) RESTRICTIONS.—In determining whether to
18 make export sales financing authorized under this section
19 available in connection with sales of agricultural commod-
20 ities, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall take into
21 account—

22 “(1) the credit needs of countries that are po-
23 tential purchasers of United States agricultural ex-
24 ports;

1 “(2) the long-term repayment ability of such
2 countries; and

3 “(3) whether the availability of Commodity
4 Credit Corporation financing will maintain or im-
5 prove the competitive position of the United States
6 agricultural exports in world markets.”.

7 **SEC. 4. RESTRICTIONS FOR CREDIT GUARANTEES.**

8 Section 202(f) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978
9 (7 U.S.C. 5622(f)) is amended to read as follows—

10 “(f) RESTRICTIONS.—In determining whether to
11 make credit guarantees available in connection with sales
12 of agricultural commodities under this section, the Com-
13 modity Credit Corporation shall take into account—

14 “(1) the credit needs of countries that are po-
15 tential purchasers of United States agricultural ex-
16 ports;

17 “(2) the long-term repayment ability of such
18 countries; and

19 “(3) whether the availability of Commodity
20 Credit Corporation guarantees will maintain or im-
21 prove the competitive position of the United States
22 agricultural exports in world markets.”.

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